United Nations A/C.1/57/L.24/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2002
English
Original: Russian

Fifty-seventh session
First Committee
Agenda item 66 (w)
General and complete disarmament: establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: revised draft resolution

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 W of 20 November 2000 and its decisions 54/417 of 1 December 1999 and 56/412 of 29 November 2001,

Recalling also paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[1] and the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[2] and recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[3] and of the report of its Main Committee II[4] concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament,

Emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different regions of the world and on the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of principles and guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] *United Nations, Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), Part I.

[4] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. II (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III)), section 6, document NPT/CONF.2000/MC.II/1.

02-65487 (E) 221002

weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned,[5]

Considering that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region[6] will heighten the security of the States concerned and strengthen global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration on the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Central Asia,[7] adopted by the leaders of the Central Asian States on 28 February 1997, the statement issued at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia[8] and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the United Nations, held at Bishkek on 9 and 10 July 1998,[9] with a view to elaborating acceptable ways and means of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Reaffirming the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the support of all States for the initiative to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. *Takes note* of the elaboration by experts of all five Central Asian States at the Samarkand meeting from 25 to 27 September 2002 of a draft treaty and its protocol for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

3. *Invites* all five Central Asian States to continue consulting with the five nuclear-weapon States on the draft treaty and its protocol for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, in conformity with the 1999 Disarmament Commission agreed guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones;[5]

4. *Welcomes* the decision by all five Central Asian States to sign the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to provide assistance to the five Central Asian States in their further work for the early establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-eighth session under the agenda item entitled "General and complete disarmament".

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[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[6] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[7] A/52/112, annex.

[8] A/52/390, annex.

[9] A/53/183, annex.